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MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Kenneth A. Karst
Deputy Director
Office of Research and Analysis for Soviet Bloc
Bureau of Intelligence and Research
Department of State

SUBJECT : Moscow Embassy Reporting of Plan and Plan Fulfillment Data

REFERENCE : Letter from Lindstrom to Gilbert, 21 October 1967, same subject

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We have looked into the questions raised in Ralph's letter about the possibility of some reduction in the amount of telegraphic reporting of plan and budget data by the embassy. As far as we are concerned, the embassy need no longer telegraph plan fulfillment data for the first and third quarters because the [redacted] will report such data henceforth in sufficient time to meet our needs. We, of course, continue to be interested in the embassy's comments on the quarterly results. With respect to annual plan and budget data as well as data on semi-annual and annual plan fulfillment, we would like the embassy to continue to report these data by telegram in the same detail as in the past. It is imperative that OER report promptly on these subjects, and the embassy cables provide our speediest source of information. We cannot wait for [redacted] or for the arrival of Pravda. Also we think that any attempt to reduce the amount of detail would backfire. The detail is needed for our industrial production index and other measures that are essential to a prompt assessment of the real meaning of the Soviet-reported data.

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[redacted]
WILLIAM N. MORELL, JR.
Director
Economic Research

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